

Correspondence and Postal Reports.

CHIPS FROM THE WORKSHOP.

HUNTINGTON, IND.

EVANGELIST READERS GREETING:—I am glad to hear of the good work among the churches. The many victories that are reported through the columns of the EVANGELIST cannot but be encouraging to the members scattered abroad. Past victories, encourage for the present conflicts. I pray that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, will give us as a church and people, sufficient wisdom, to accomplish the most good.

Notice has been given of our coming conference to be held at Ashland, Ohio, in August 1894. The National Conference of the Brethren church. Brethren, how does that sound in your ears? Are you in sympathy with it? Will you help to make it a help for the church? I am aware of the fact that some are opposed to it, a few don't care, but I believe the great majority are trying to make the National conference a help, spiritually and socially in general. I mean by spiritual help to discuss the best plans, and advise as to the best ways of extending and building up the church. And to be helped in the manner of presenting the word of God most effectually. And to understand the Spirit's pleadings with the churches.

Socially, to impress upon the mind of all members from the East, West, North and South that ours is

A COMMON CAUSE,

that we are children of the same King, and what interests one, should be imparted to all, that we are soldiers in the same army. With the hand of Christian fellowship extended to all, we can say with one of old, "Thy people shall be my people and thy God my God."

The National Conference, means a great deal more than some of us have been in the habit of acknowledging. Such conferences of the Baptist, Methodist, and Presbyterian churches, mean a great deal to them, and our conference means just as much to us as theirs do to them. There the supposed intelligent and wise heads of the church are assembled and discuss the ways and means that would best develop the church, morally, religiously, and otherwise.

While we believe the doctrine as set forth in the Word of God, and while we believe the Brethren church is in line with that Gospel, still we feel there can be a wonderful improvement made by intensifying our earnestness, and strengthening our courage. There are so many rudders that it makes us sweat on the level. I believe every workman in the field will say a hearty, "amen" to that. I would like to have the program committee give us some idea as how the work shall be arranged, and give us fellows who are on a force march all the while

A CHANCE TO THINK.

So when we come to the conference and are called upon (if such a thing should happen) we shall be ready to speak intelligently.

I have thought that it would be well to have different districts represent different subjects, and then allow a discussion if necessary. All the districts to participate in the celebration. But then I live over here in Indiana and the "hoosiers" are inclined to be progressive.

I believe that seventy-five per cent of those who attended the conference in the past did not know what the conference would consider until some question or subject was sprung. Well yes; I believe there was one question that all were sure would come up, that was the college, and sure enough, it did, and I hope the crisis with that subject is passed. Now, if we can use it when we have got it, it will be a blessing.

Brother Lichty hit the nail on the head in remarks on the college. I wish some one who knows would tell us how the college is getting along. There are so many calls, and so much hanging back that I fear we will not get up the hill this year. I wish all would wake up for it is now daylight, the spring has come, and the bells are ringing. Humanity is hard to please being naturally inclined to be on the extreme. Some say you are too fast; others, too slow. Now and then you will find one who is just right. I wish I was that one, but an open confession is good for the soul; I say *I am not that fellow*. But I am not jealous of the one who is, but battle the harder for the right.

On last Sabbath, we filled our regular appointment at Zanesville, and Roanoke. Sunday morning at 9:30 we met at the Zanesville house and after a Scripture lesson and prayer, we went out to the river side where four precious souls were buried in baptism. At 2 P. M. we went again to the church for consecration, and preaching service. It was a solemn service indeed. Elder W. M. Hamilton was present and assisted.

We tried to talk to the people on the subject, "The effect of religion on the human heart." We must preach at Roanoke in the evening so after the service we started for the evening appointment. On our way we passed by a tile mill which had been wrecked by the boiler exploding only a few days previous. Scores of people were there viewing the place. We stopped and looked over the twisted iron, shattered posts and boards. We were shown the spot where one young man was thrown, so badly mangled as to be almost beyond recognition. Also where the scalded lay, it was a fearful sight.

It made me think of this old world which had been wrecked thousands of years ago by sin, and even now you can see the mangled and bleeding thousands who are suffering because of it.

We reached the Roanoke class and had an enjoyable service being greeted with a full house. May God bless and keep the churches here in peace and brotherly love.

J. H. PALMER.

PROGRESSIVEISMS.

Since September last my time has been so fully occupied that I have been unable to do much writing.

Aside from preaching every Sunday, going eighty miles on Saturday to the appointment and returning on Monday, I have been carrying full work in college. It is needless to say that I have but little spare time. Hebrew roots can occupy one's attention very well for every spare moment he has.

DUNLAPS.—I recently baptized two converts here. They were a young man and his wife and I think will be good workers.

We waited long here for Brother Haskins and were very sorry when we learned that he would not come at all. So of course we have had no special revival meeting here this year.

ELKHART.—We had our communion service here May 12th and I think we had one of the best meetings I ever attended. A number of brethren and sisters came from Pleasant View, Mt. Union and Dunlap. Brethren Sala, Menaugh and Neff were also with us. On Sunday morning Brother Menaugh preached a sermon that was very highly appreciated by all.

We had a short series of meetings here during the winter conducted by Sister Grossnickle, at which time one made the good profession.

BRIGHTON.—I took charge of this congregation in the fall. I think our congregations are growing and am encouraged. We had a communion service here on May 20th, but on account of the rain only a few were in attendance. We had, however, a good spiritual feast.

ELKHART COUNTY WORK.—Upon the invitation of the Elkhart congregation brethren from three other congregations met in the afternoon preceding our communion service and considered our work in the county.

After considerable discussion the following facts were developed:

1st. We need to be strengthened as congregations as well as individuals.

2nd. Congregationalism does not destroy the duties of congregations to each other.

3rd. Our congregations being small can greatly strengthen and encourage the work by frequent union service.

5th. The interests of one congregation are the interests of every other congregation. Success in one means success everywhere. To understand these interests and secure the best success of the cause is our present duty.

One plan, mutually agreed upon, for the present is as follows:

Brethren from four congregations have at this time expressed a desire to unite in this work. It is our purpose to hold one union meeting with each congregation during the year. In these meetings the members of these congregations are expected to

be present and take part having no services elsewhere at this time.

Such meetings will begin on Saturday afternoon when such a program as shall have been previously arranged shall be carried out. Biblical and doctrinal instructions, the consideration of the Sunday school work, the King's Children work, the sister's aid society work, etc. will fill the program. Communion services on Saturday eve. And on Sunday, a sermon in the morning and evening, a session of Sunday school and a Young People's meeting.

These meetings are not to take the place of any of the regular services of the congregation where they may be held. They are independent of all such meetings as well as the usual quarterly or semi-annual communion service.

We hope by these meetings to learn to know each other better, to strengthen and encourage each other, to build up the cause by creating zeal and educating both members and people and thereby extend the borders and usefulness and the principles we hold sacred.

Yours truly and fraternally,

J. A. MILLER.

Hillsdale, Mich.

CALLED BIBLE READERS.

EDMOND, KANSAS, May 14, 1894.

TO THE EVANGELIST AND ALL THE BRETHREN. GREETING:—As several months have elapsed since a report has been sent from the Otter Creek church, I will endeavor (being appointed by our pastor, Bro. George Friend) to perform my duty more faithfully than heretofore. The church at this place is still small, but for all that it is increasing a little. On April 29th Bro. Hans and Sister Julia Foss received holy baptism and were admitted into the church. The little congregation here has had to battle against some pretty hard storms, but through the help of an all wise and powerful God, they still are in the field of battle, and as long as we have the sword of the spirit to fight with we will never fear. As a result of the contention about water baptism, I feel assured that it has set many to searching the Scripture; this will only show them their deplorable condition, and my prayer is that they may not neglect their duty too long.

We were called a set of Bible readers, but that is a good name by which to be called. Our Savior says that, "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches;" so I am glad to be called a Bible reader. If those ministers had admonished their congregation to read the Bible instead of berating other churches so much, and trying to fill them full of the Holy Ghost without the word, there would have been no cause for the contention. We have our Sunday school running again. At the request of the superintendent of the U. B. Sabbath school, at Edmond, we changed from ten o'clock A. M. till two o'clock P. M., as he said they would like to attend our school and would like that we should go to theirs. Perhaps this is quite long, but pardon me this time, and I will try to commune with you oftener hereafter so that it will not take so much space. Now dear brothers and sisters do not forget me and our little church, in your prayers. May God be with you all.

ROSA BOCKNER.